

Petition Circulation Hints

1. Do not put off starting. Days become weeks and weeks become months.
2. Try for 75%-100% this will assure you 50%. Invariably there are parcels of land you are not aware of or do not think of, such as empty lots and easements. Most people feel they have gotten a higher percentage than they really have.
3. Do not overlook large parcels. It is a good idea to try to get signatures for large parcels early. Most large parcel owners are very cooperative and would resent any hint that pressure is being put on them to sign. Since you need over 50% of the front footage large parcels can be vital in your success.
4. Let all the people in this district know what is going on --- it will save you grief later.
5. Trying to do it all yourself can be difficult. Try to get a neighborhood organization to help. Friends, Women's clubs, Garden Clubs, Boy Scouts and/or Girl Scouts, Church Groups or other similar organizations who are civic minded are always very good.
6. If you are successful in enlisting the aid of an organization, then their efforts must be organized or nothing will get done.
7. In some cases a preview letter has been effectively used. It should be sent to all residents in this district. This letter should explain the background of the program and the advantages of having the district lighted and that someone will be around to get the petition signed. With this pre-information a great deal of time can be saved. It is even possible to send boy or girl scouts around to collect signatures.
8. Most areas find that if works well to assign a block captain for each street or small area. The block captain is then responsible for all signatures in his/her area.
9. You may want to assign one or two individuals to concentrate on getting signatures for undeveloped areas.

If you run into hints that help you, let me know and I will add them to this list for the ones who will follow.